

S-E-C-R-E-T

21 March 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Bureau Chiefs

FROM : Acting Chief, FBIS

SUBJECT : Letter of Information

GENERAL

1. FBIS support of the Agency representative on the U.S. delegation to the 17-nation Geneva disarmament conference began on 8 March. Selected key texts are being supplied by European Bureaus and by the Okinawa and West Coast Bureaus, roundups of relevant Soviet and satellite comment are filed to Geneva Monday through Friday by the London Bureau, and analyses of communist bloc propaganda bearing on conference issues are cabled to Geneva Sunday through Friday by the Radio Propaganda Branch. [] 50X1
2. Field support to the U.S. delegation at the Geneva conference on Laos is continuing. Headquarters propaganda-analysis support remains on a watch basis during the present lull in the negotiations. [] 50X1
3. The Austrian Bureau's support of OCI briefing papers for White House Press Secretary Pierre Salinger was terminated on 14 March following the indefinite postponement of Mr. Salinger's projected trip to the Soviet Union. [] 50X1
4. Foreign radio and press reaction to Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy's world tour was reviewed for the Director in a Special Memorandum prepared by the Editorial and Radio Propaganda Branches, with field bureau support. Copies were sent to the DD/I and AD/CI. [] 50X1
5. From 7 March through 9 March the Daily Report issued four area supplements containing speeches and documents relating to the CPSU Central Committee plenum on agriculture. The four volumes, comprising a total of 256 pages, included the opening and closing speeches to the plenum made by Premier Khrushchev. [] 50X1
6. Two supplements to the World Reaction Series have been issued since mid-February: One on the first U.S. manned orbital flight, and the other on the U.S. decision to resume atmospheric nuclear tests. [] 50X1
7. In compliance with a midnight request 27 February by the White House, the FBIS Wire prepared a clean white teletype copy of the IZVESTIYA article by Aleksey Adzhubev. "An Invitation to Travel," for briefing of the President the next morning. [] 50X1
8. The FBIS Wire Service on 6 March increased its file to a total of 52,263 words to accommodate consumer interest in CPSU developments at the opening session of the Central Committee plenum, including Khrushchev's speech. This was the second

S-E-C-R-E-T

S-E-C-R-E-T

SUBJECT: Letter of Information

highest figure in FBIS history, exceeded only by the 55,000 words transmitted 22 April 1961 when the outbreak of the Algerian "generals' revolt" coincided with the aftermath of developments initiated by the abortive Cuban invasion. [redacted] 50X1

9. To satisfy a Voice of America need for greater familiarity with Radio Moscow's English-language programs for North America, which are being relayed by an increasing number of U.S. stations as a means of "showing up" the Soviet propaganda line, on 15 February the London Bureau initiated a 30-day service of teletyping raw program summaries of these broadcasts to Headquarters for forwarding to USIA. [redacted] 50X1

10. In support of a forthcoming NIS on Spain, BIS provided OBI Research Division statistical data on Radio Madrid broadcasting and on Soviet Bloc beaming and attention to Spain. A two-week sample of Madrid Radio summaries prepared by East Coast Bureau was also forwarded to OEI. [redacted] 50X1

11. VOA's enlarged coverage of Latin America developments and the resulting pressing need for a steady flow of "fresh" news was reflected in action taken by FBIS to provide VOA with daily messenger service of all Latin America press service items, excluding those from PRENSA LATINA, not carried on the FBIS Wire Service. [redacted] 50X1

12. FBIS provided 500 feet of Wire Service teletype tapes to the Systems Development Corporation, Santa Monica, California, as part of the Agency's interest in and support of a computer development program being carried out by the corporation. [redacted] 50X1

13. In connection with a specialized language training course being developed by a Department of the Army contractee, the Okinawa and German Bureaus provided two tape recordings each of Peking Mandarin and Radio Volga Russian broadcasts. The project director expressed appreciation for this service. [redacted] 50X1

14. RFB Publications and Services

a. A Special Memorandum on authoritative Soviet claims since January 1960 regarding naval and particularly antisubmarine warfare capabilities was prepared for the Defense Systems Division, OSI. Copies of this collation were sent to the DD/I and to ONE. [redacted] 50X1

b. At the request of the Deputy Assistant Director, National Estimates, the Chief, Internal Affairs Section, RFB, briefed a group in the office of the State Department Policy Planning Council on Moscow and Peking propaganda surrounding the 14 February anniversary of the Sino - Soviet alliance. [redacted] 50X1

- 2 -
S-E-C-R-E-T

S-E-C-R-E-T

SUBJECT: Letter of Information

c. In response to a number of queries from the State Department, USIA, and OCI, a propaganda-analysis item on the FBIS Wire reviewed the extent and development of Moscow's broadcasting to China and Peking's broadcasting to the USSR, both in the form of direct broadcasts and "canned" programs exchanged by the USSR and Communist China since 1954 under a reciprocal radio-cooperation arrangement. []

50X1

d. An analysis item on the Wire called attention to Radio Moscow's restatement of the long-standing Soviet position that U.S. - Soviet cooperation in space can come only after disarmament, notwithstanding Khrushchev's 21 February message to the President proposing such cooperation without reference to disarmament. []

50X1

15. Radio Propaganda Reports Issued: []

50X1

a. "CPR Propaganda Presses Peasants to Surrender Surplus Grain"

b. "Soviet Dispute Over Economic Policy Continues," following up Radio Propaganda Report RS.48 of 21 November 1961 on the Soviet policy dispute over resource allocation.

16. Radio Propaganda Reports newly in preparation include a study of Soviet propaganda bids for neutralist support in Moscow's dispute with Peking over foreign policy issues. It is planned to update and expand the recent Special Memorandum on Soviet naval capabilities, prepared for OSI, for general distribution in the Radio Propaganda Report Research Series. []

50X1

17. Of 168 items included in the Current Intelligence Digest during February, 53 (30 percent) were based solely or in part on FBIS monitoring. []

50X1

18. During the month 88 percent of Daily Report pages were devoted to broadcast material and 12 percent to press scrutiny. []

50X1

- 3 -

S-E-C-R-E-T

U-N-C-E-A-C-C-I-F-I-E-D

SUBJECT: Letter of Information

EDITORIAL COMMENT

GENERAL

1. Headquarters appreciates the field's enthusiastic response to periodic requests for radio and press reaction roundups, and is making efforts not only to standardize such requirements but to clarify headquarters needs. A memorandum on the subject has been sent to all bureaus. This, together with guidance set forth in the Editorial Handbook, will serve as standing instructions on the preparation and filing of reaction roundups. Some recent contributions have been well organized and well written. Others have been poorly organized and carelessly written. A few manifested conscientious effort but lack of familiarity with the product's basic purpose and character. No one should attempt to prepare and file a reaction roundup without first making himself conversant with all factors involved in the project.

2. Bureaus are reminded to flag COPY TO RPB any items filed from nonbloc sources that deal significantly with bloc affairs. For an elaboration and examples of this requirement, see page 3 of the Letter of Information dated 20 December 1960.

3. Monitors and editors are requested to review paragraph 5.24 of the GPO Style Manual on possessives and apostrophes.

MEDITERRANEAN BUREAU

1. While it is permissible to include comment from North African radios and press services in the Middle East Review, particularly when this concerns Arab world affairs, and while the reaction of Near East radios to Algerian developments is of obvious interest, writers of the Review are cautioned against placing too much emphasis on North African news developments. The focal point of the Review should continue to be the Near East area, with particular emphasis on the propaganda picture. Frequently developments can be reflected by citing reaction to and comment on such events.

2. The proper abbreviation for European Economic Community is EEC, not ECM. The term "Common Market" should be spelled out.

GERMAN BUREAU

1. The practice of inserting virgules to indicate passages printed in bold-face type may be dropped when it is apparent that the boldface is used merely as a stylistic device. Virgules should continue to be used, however, to indicate underscoring of significant passages in polemical articles.

2. The Bureau's prompt and enlightening response early in March to a headquarters request for background information on East German deputy premiers Leuschner and Stoph was greatly appreciated.

- 4 -

U-N-C-E-A-C-S-I-F-I-E-D

U-N-C-L-A-S-S-I-F-I-E-D

SUBJECT: Letter of Information

ENGINEERING AND FIELD OPERATIONS

1. Bureaus are encouraged to report monitor observations of clandestine transmitter operation which may be helpful in identifying groups sponsoring the broadcasts. Such observations might include accent of announcers, unusual phraseology of script, transmitter operation idiosyncracies, etc.

2. In reporting on a previously unknown news agency, bureaus are requested to transmit the name in the original language, if available, as well as an English translation.

3. The cruising reports from Mediterranean, Okinawa, West Coast, and Hokkaido Bureaus on the recent inauguration of Peking Russian broadcasts reflected a commendable coordination of effort by the Bureaus concerned. This prompt and complete reporting enabled Headquarters to keep interested consumers fully informed. This use of multiple-addressed cruising messages should serve as a model for the reporting of similar broadcast developments in which several bureaus may be concerned.

4. The publication in four parts of the 1961 edition "Broadcasting Stations of the World" has been completed by the U.S. Government Printing Office. Copies have been mailed by the Printing Services Division to various FBIS field bureaus and Agency components as well as to selected clients.

5. Occupancy of the new African Bureau Operations Building near Kaduna, Nigeria has been delayed by interference difficulties on the teletype line. The Bureau is working closely with engineers of the Nigeria Postal and Telegraph to overcome this trouble.

6. A heavy snowstorm in the Washington area on 6 March caused considerable damage to the ECB antennas. Restoration and repairs have been completed.

7. Considerable progress has been made on the London Bureau elevator project at Caversham Park. Inauguration of elevator service is expected momentarily.

8. A contract for rehabilitation of the Okinawa Bureau Bolo Point BOQ was signed on 27 February.

ADMINISTRATION

1. The following FBIS regulatory issuances were disseminated:

<u>Notice No.</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Date</u>
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U-N-C-L-A-S-S-I-F-I-E-D

SUBJECT: Letter of Information

STAT

Personnel

1. New Employees

Assignment

STAT

Teletype Operator
Editorial Branch

Intelligence Assistant
Liaison & Requirements Staff

Broadcast Monitor (Multi)
East Coast Bureau

Teletype Operator
Editorial Branch

2. Reassignments

From

To

STAT

Editor
Editorial Branch

Editor
London Bureau

Asst. Chief Engineer
West Coast Bureau

Asst. Chief Engineer
Mediterranean Bureau

Editor
West Coast Bureau

Editor, USSR & EE
Section, Editorial Branch

Editor
Editorial Branch

Editor
East Coast Bureau

3. Separations

Assignment

STAT

Broadcast Monitor (Mono)
West Coast Bureau

Editor
Editorial Branch

STAT